Virginia's School Readiness Report Card

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Virginia Early Childhood Foundation

- Founded in 2006 as a public-private partnership.
- Supports more than 25 Smart Beginnings communities across the Commonwealth (with resources and technical assistance) to build capacity to increase the health and school readiness of young children.
- Our Vision: Every Virginia child is prepared for school, laying the foundation for school, workforce and life success.
- Charged by the Early Childhood Advisory Council to provide a School Readiness Report Card for the Commonwealth

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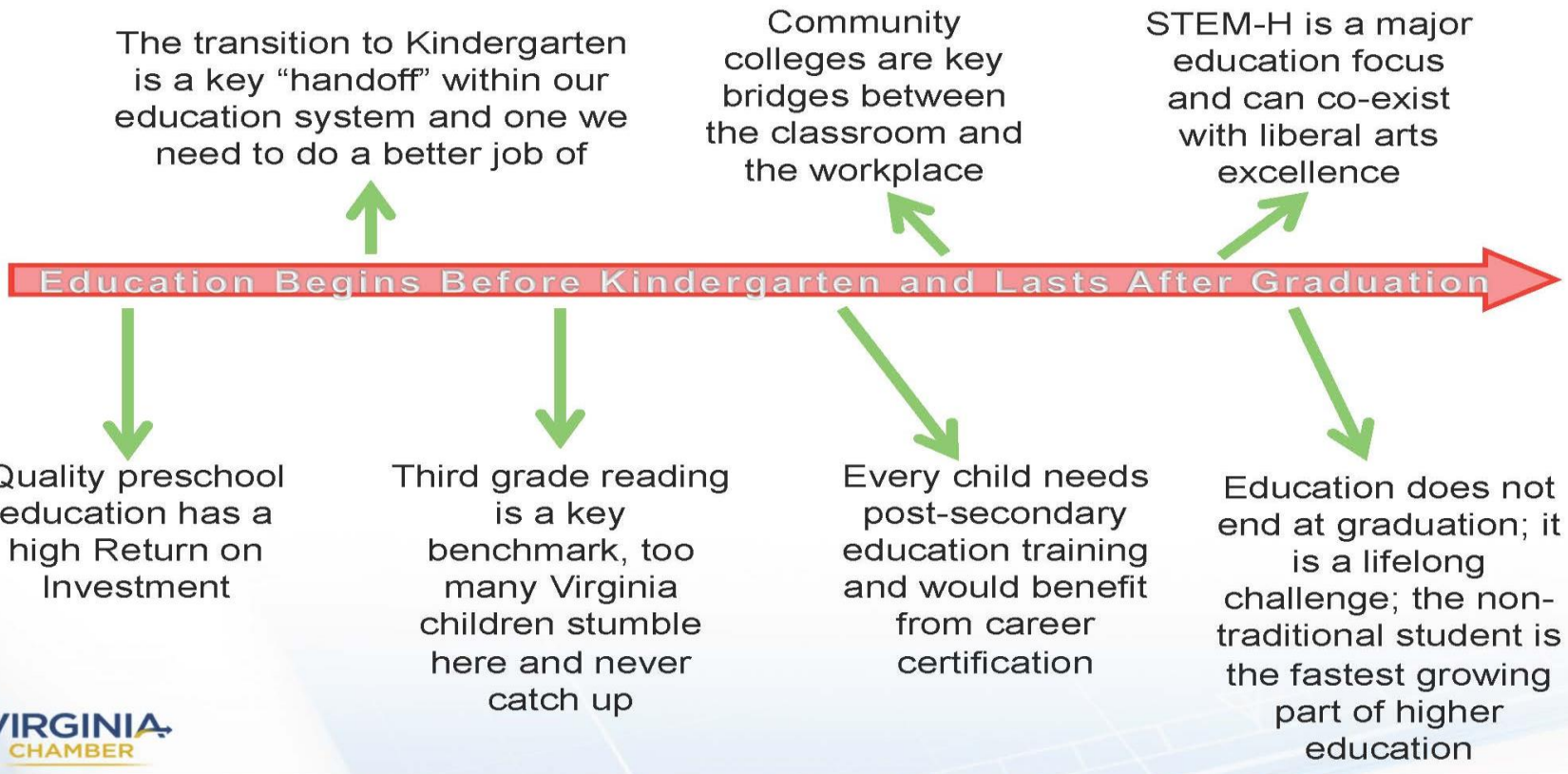
BLUEPRINT VIRGINIA
A Business Plan for the Commonwealth

Lifelong Education for All Virginians



VIRGINIA CHAMBER

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Why is School Readiness Important?

- First 5 years are critical to child development
  - Early experiences influence brain development
- Success in school begins before a child ever enters a classroom
- Families, communities and schools play critical roles in helping children get ready for school

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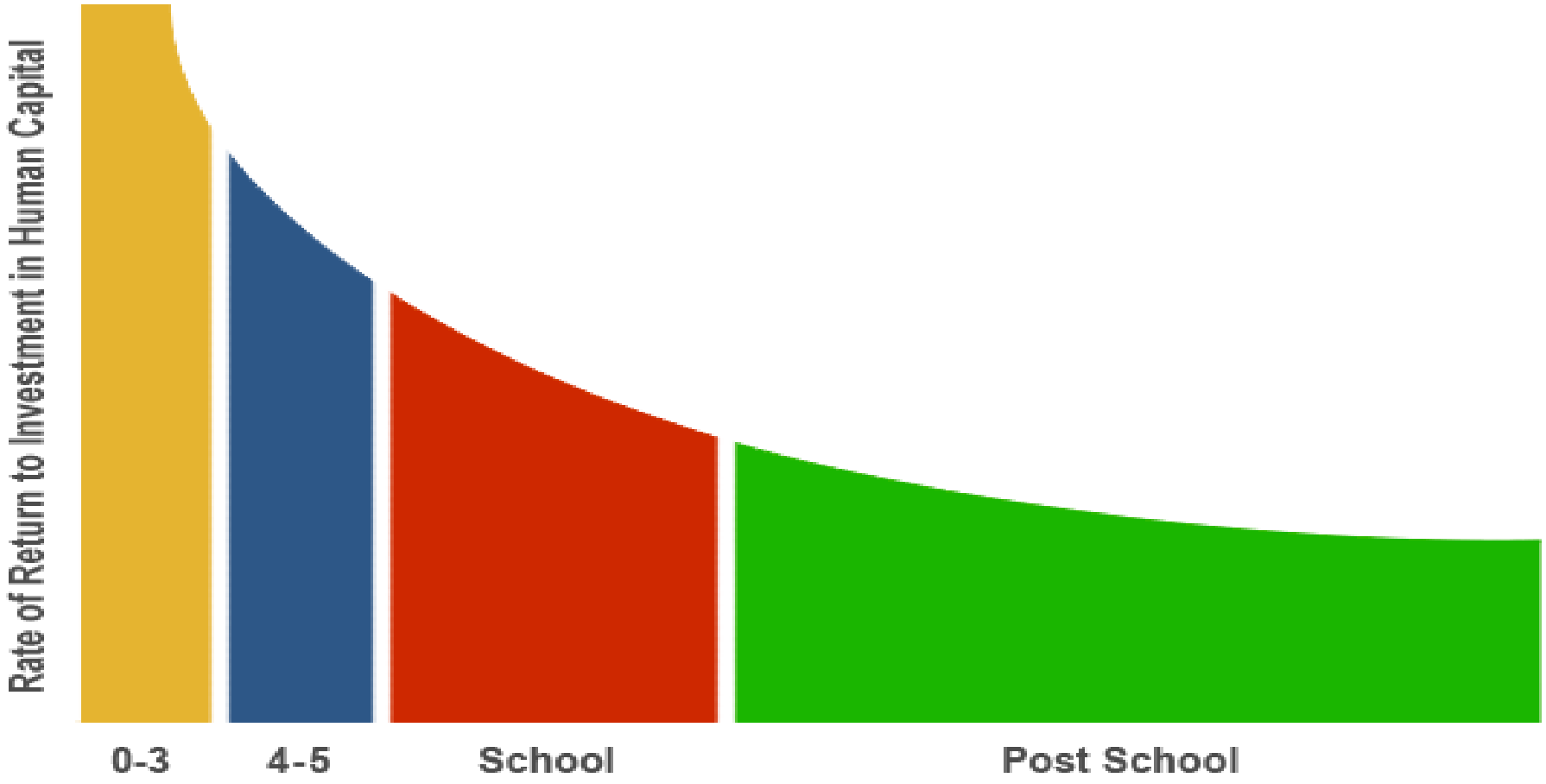
Returns to a Unit Dollar Invested



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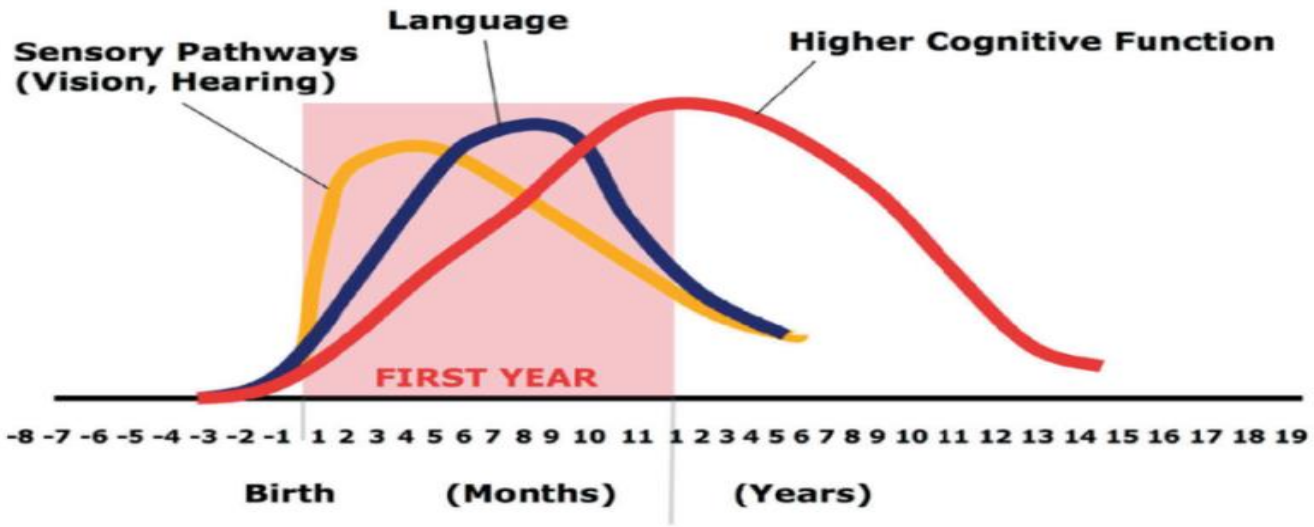
Early Investment, Great Return

Center on the Developing Child
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Human Brain Development

Neural Connections for Different Functions Develop Sequentially



Source: C. Nelson (2000)

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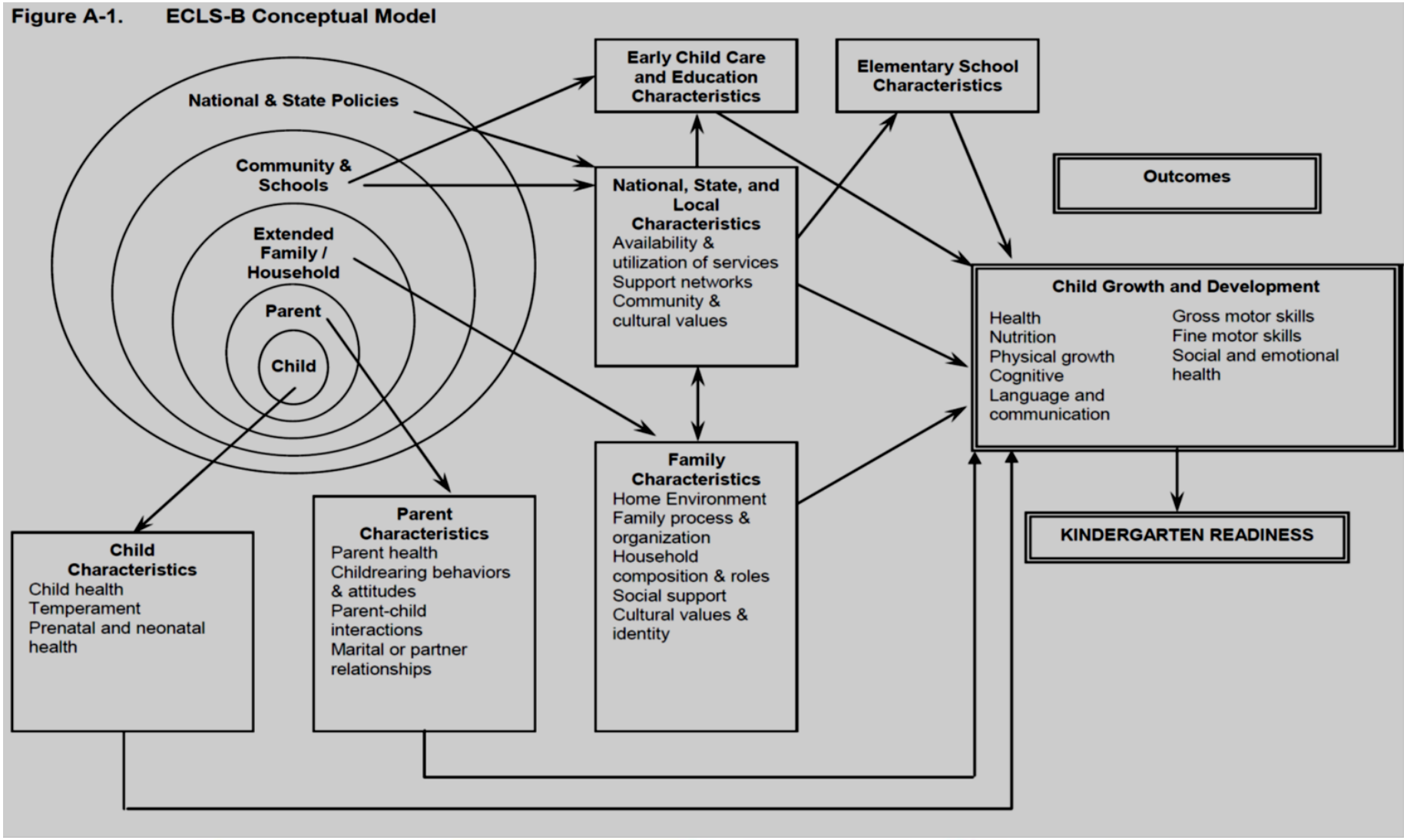
Figure A-1. ECLS-B Conceptual Model



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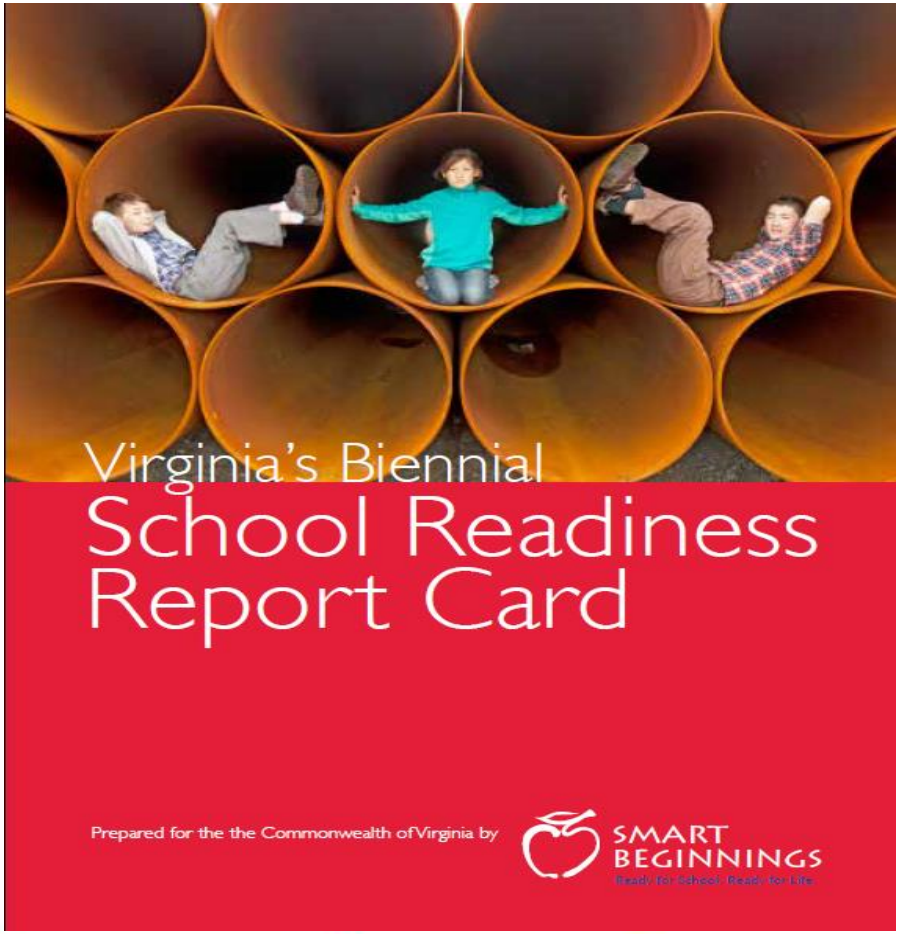
School Readiness Report Card

- Risk
- Reach
- Results
- Recommendations

- Narrative
- Commentary
- Data Tables



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Risk Indicators

- Selected based on:
  - Evidence for strong relationship to health, developmental and school outcomes
  - Potential for effects to be reduced
  - Availability of quality data
- Note: Risk factors do not occur in isolation
- Impact of risk can be reduced through early intervention program, services, and policies

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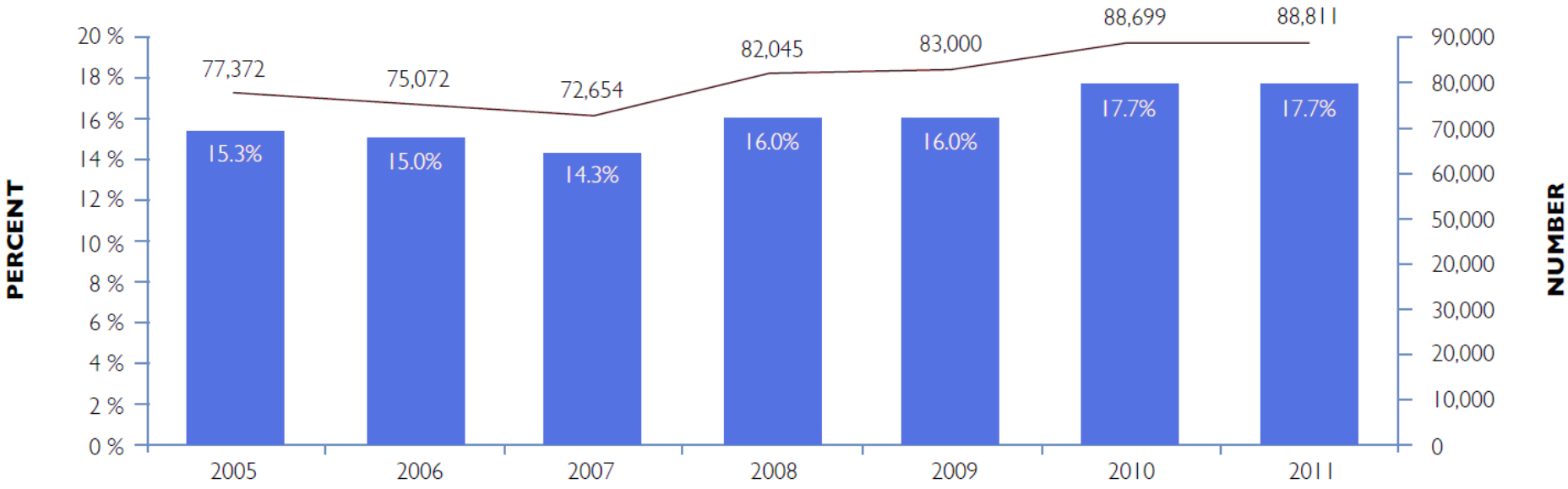
Poverty

Number and Percentage of Children Ages 0-4 Living in Poverty, Virginia, 2005-2011



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, http://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe/data/interactive/#. *See page 46.*

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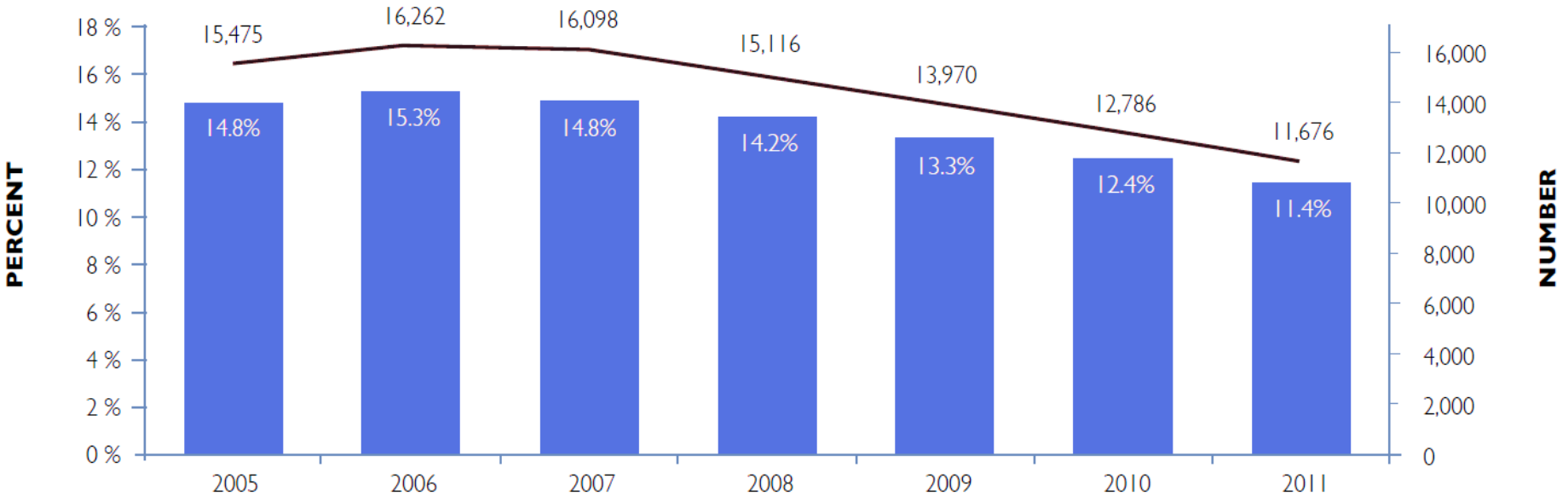
Low Maternal Education (<12yrs)

Number and Percentage of Births to Mothers with <12 Years of Education, Virginia, 2005-2011



SOURCE: Virginia Resident Live Birth Certificate Data compiled by the Division of Health Statistics, Virginia Department of Health. See pages 47-50.

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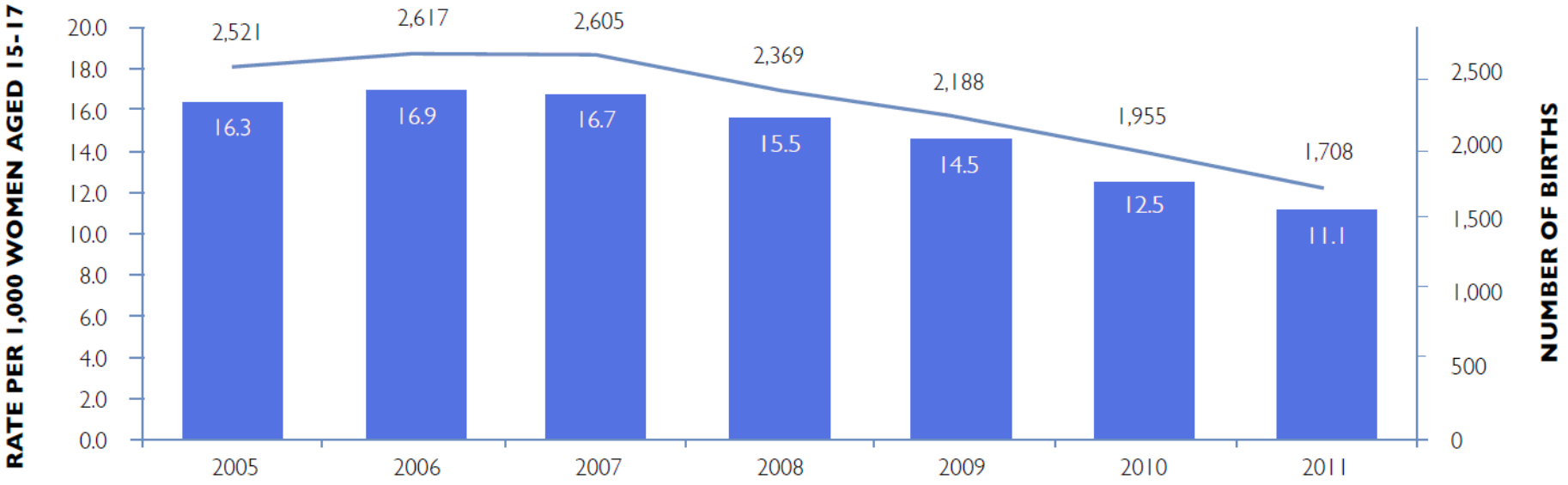
Teen Births (15-17 yrs)

Number and Rate of Births to Mothers Ages 15-17 Years, Virginia, 2005-2011



SOURCE: Virginia Resident Live Birth Certificate Data compiled by the Division of Health Statistics, Virginia Department of Health. See pages 51-54.

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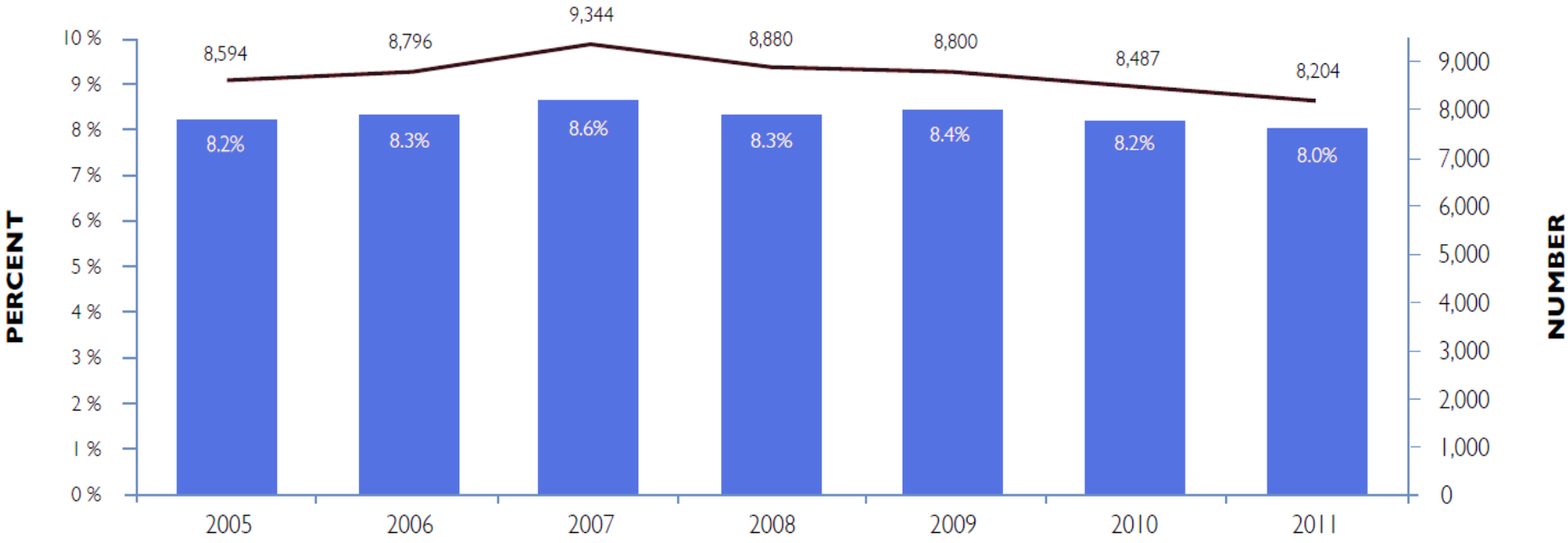
Low Birthweight (<2500g)

Number and Percentage of Infants Born Low Birthweight (<2500g), Virginia, 2005-2011



SOURCE: Virginia Resident Live Birth Certificate Data compiled by the Division of Health Statistics, Virginia Department of Health. See pages 55-58.

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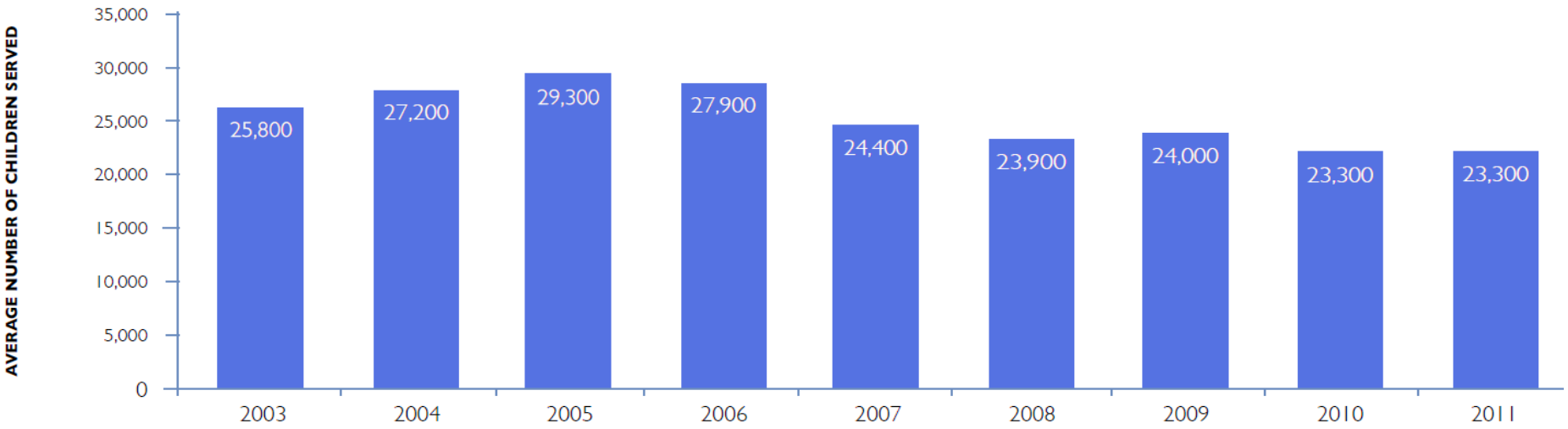
Reach

- Strengthening Families
  - CCDF
  - Home Visiting Programs

Average number of children served, CCDF



*SOURCE: Child Care Development Fund Statistics, http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/ccdf-statistics. *2011 data are preliminary estimates published May 3, 2013.*

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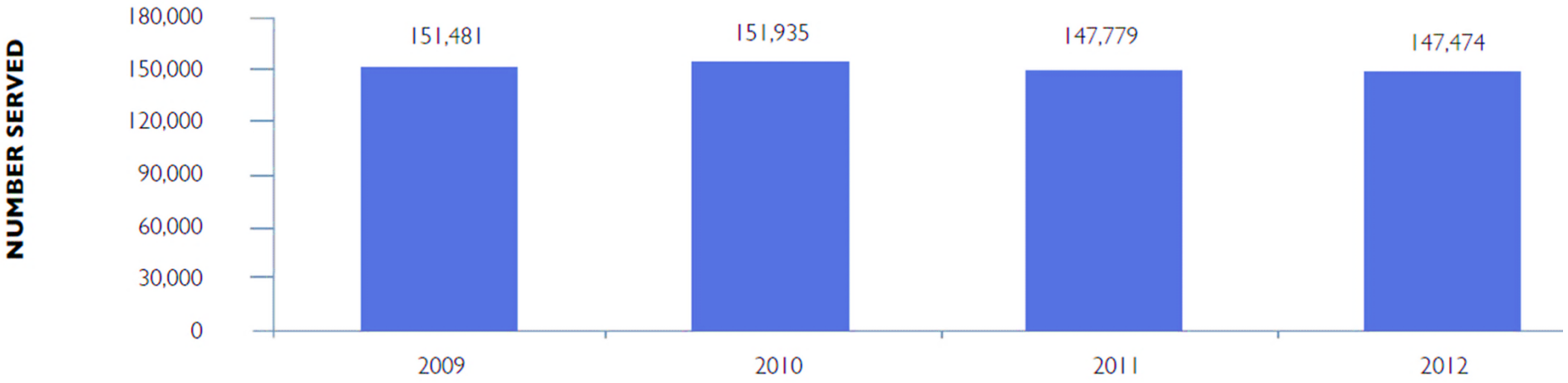
Reach

- Promoting Healthy Development
  - Immunization
  - Part C
  - WIC

Number of Children Birth to 5 Years Served by the Virginia WIC Program



SOURCE: Virginia Department of Health, Division of Community Nutrition

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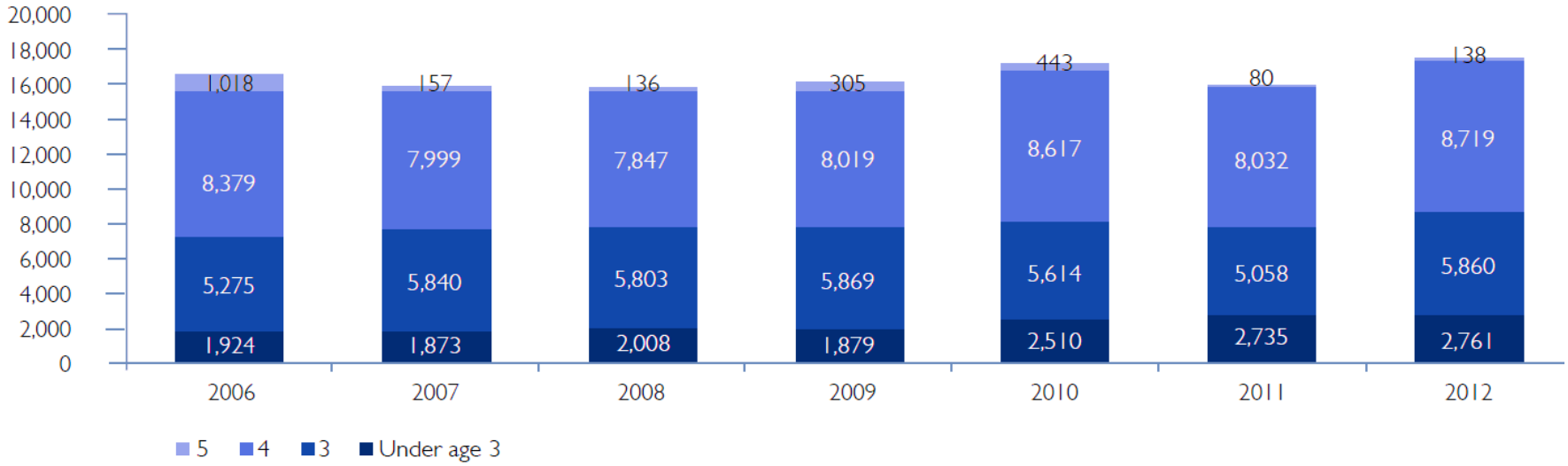
Reach

- Accessing Quality Early Learning
  - Head Start, Part B, Title I
  - Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI)
  - Virginia Star Quality Initiative (VSQI)

Number of children served in Head Start and Early Head Start, Virginia 2006-2012



Source: Kids Count Data Center, Head Start Enrollment by Age Group

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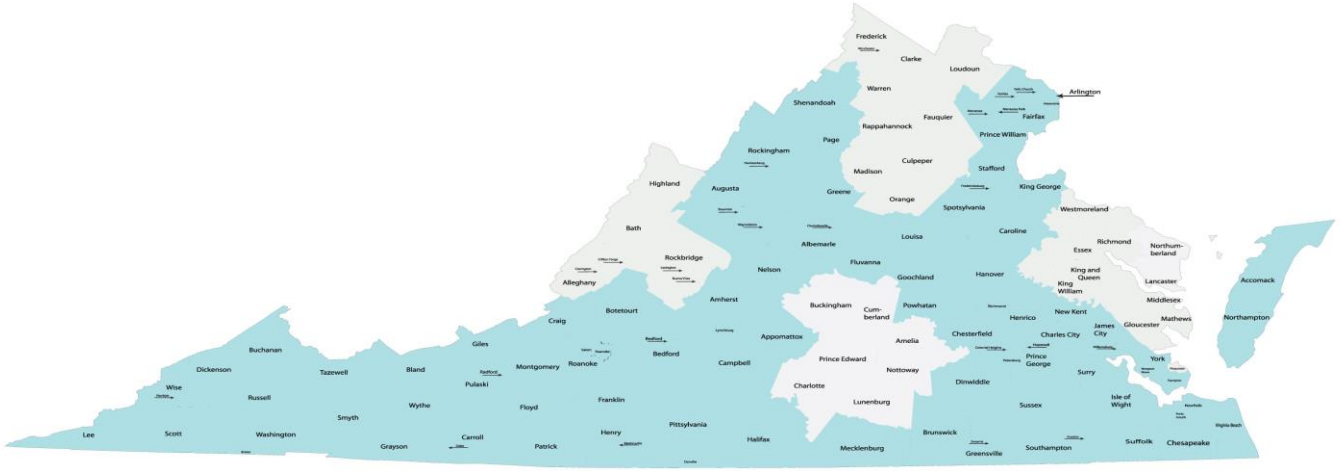
Reach

- Creating Community Commitment
  Smart Beginnings Partners
  September 2013



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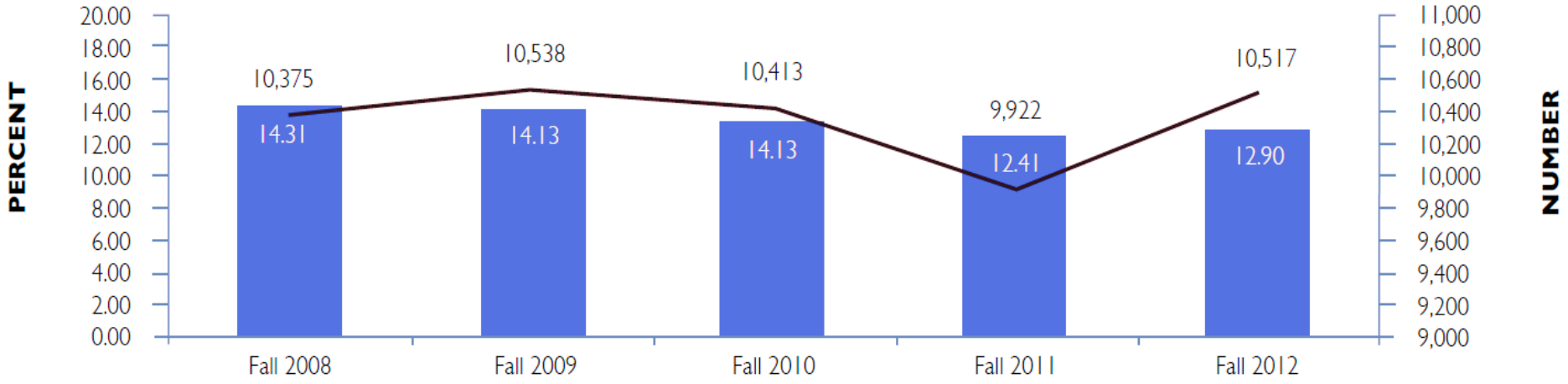
Kindergarteners Needing Literacy Intervention

Percentage of children in fall of kindergarten not meeting PALS K benchmarks and requiring literacy interventions



Source: Virginia Department of Education. See pages 63-66.

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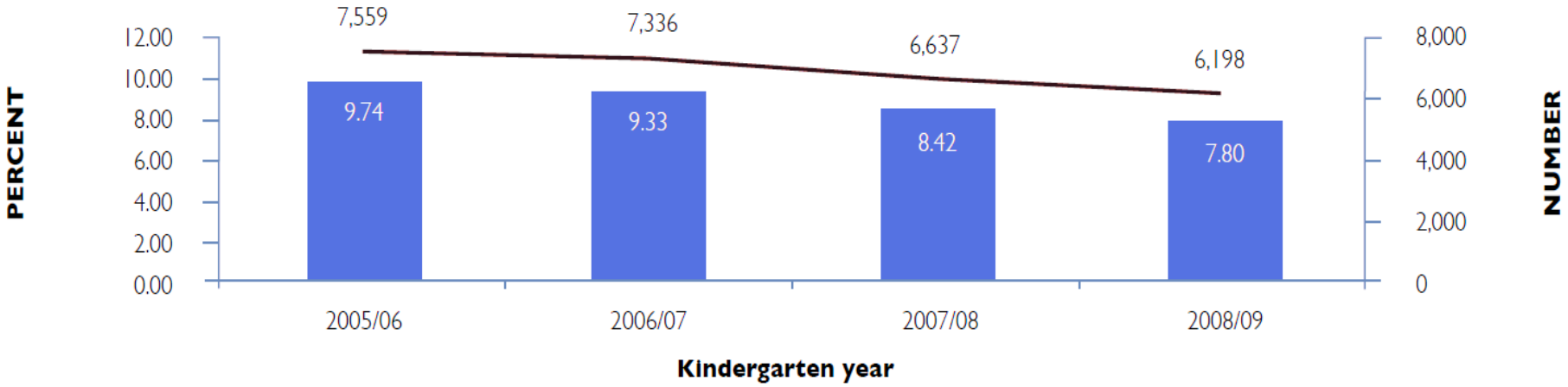
KG-3rd Grade Retention

Number and percent of kindergarten class not promoted on-time to third grade



SOURCE: Virginia Department of Education. See pages 67-69.

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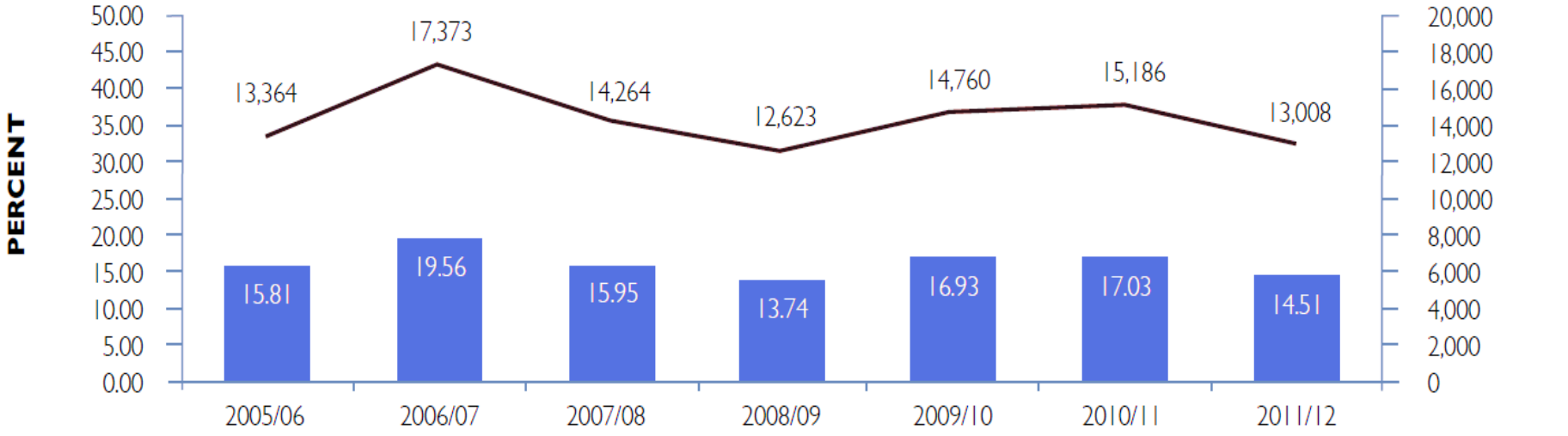
Failed 3rd Grade Reading SOL

Percentage of Virginia students failing the grade 3 SOL reading test



Source: Virginia Department of Education, http://bi.virginia.gov/BuildATab/rdPage.aspx. See pages 70-73.

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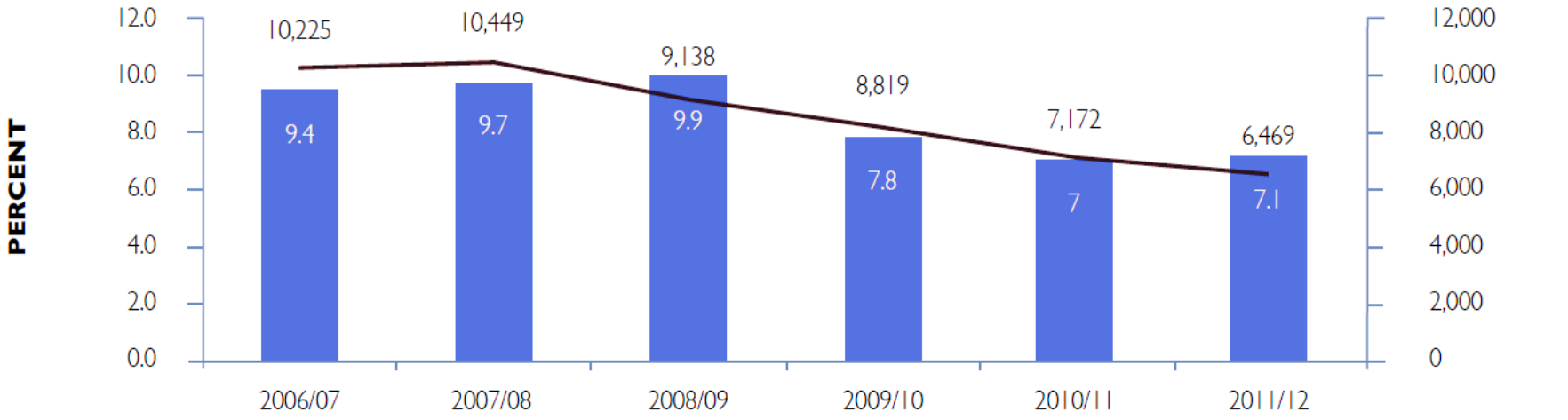
9th Grade Retention

Number and percent of 9th graders retained



SOURCE: Virginia Department of Education. See pages 78-81.

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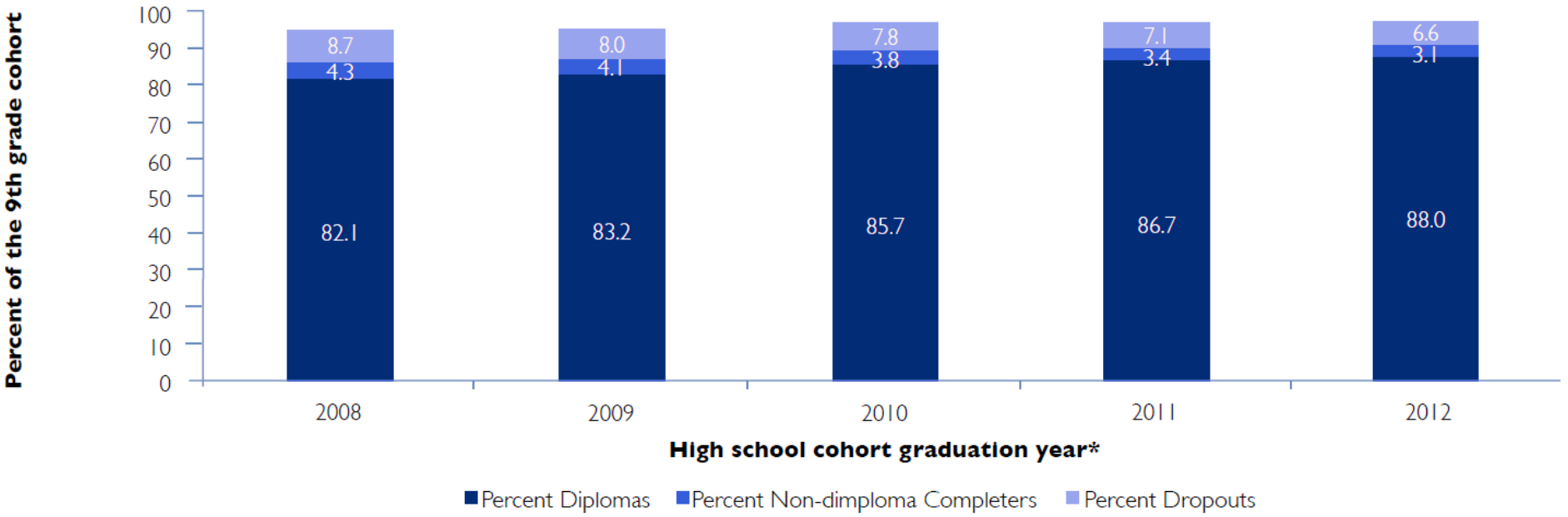
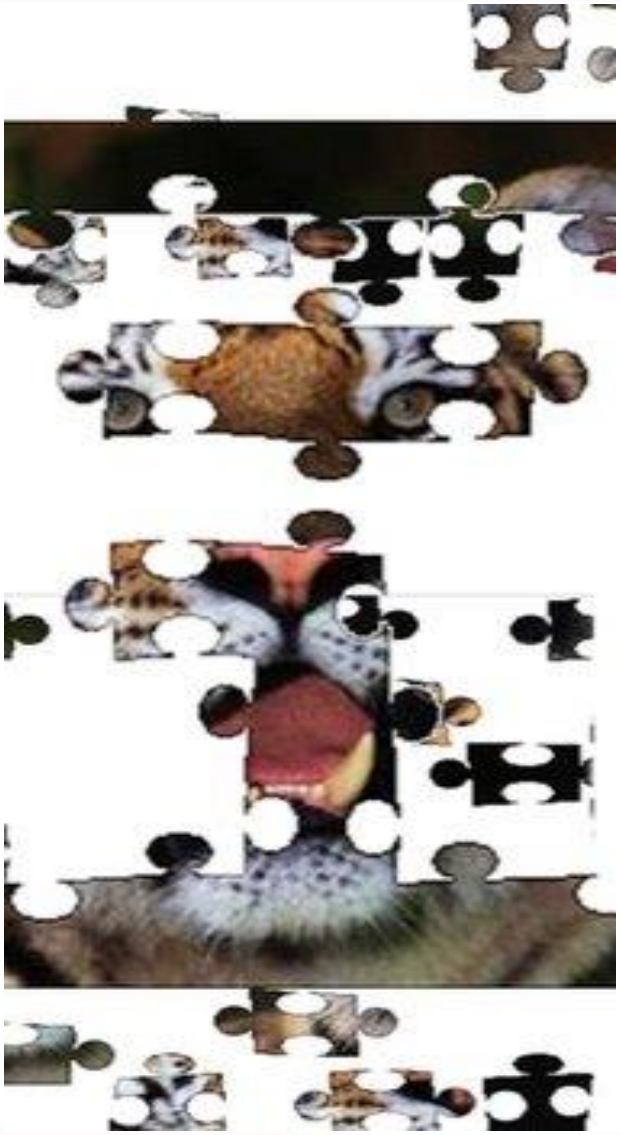
High School Dropouts

Percentage of high school dropouts, non-graduate completers and graduates in Virginia



*SOURCE: Virginia Department of Education. See pages 82-84. *Graduation year is based on incoming students earning a diploma in four years or less.*



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Recommendations

1) Improve accountability and opportunities for data-driven decision-making through a comprehensive early childhood data system

2) Ensure an effective measurement of children's readiness and growth through a comprehensive kindergarten assessment

3) Utilizing existing resources, increase access for at-risk four-year-olds to the Virginia Preschool Initiative